

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for the preparation of an aqueous suspension of carbon nanotubes, comprising adding to an aqueous medium, prior to the addition of carbon nanotubes or thereafter, a water-soluble polymeric material selected from polysaccharides and polypeptides, thereby to separate the nanotubes into dispersed, essentially single tubes.
2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the polymer is a hydrophilic polymer, of either natural or synthetic origin.
3. A method for the preparation of dry non-tangled carbon nanotubes comprising: i) the preparation of an aqueous suspension of carbon nanotubes according to claim 1; and ii) the removal of water from said suspension.
4. A method of claim 3, wherein the removal of water comprises evaporation, lyophilization, or filtration.
5. A method according to claim 1, wherein the concentration of dry, polymer-coated, carbon nanotubes in the suspension is up to 65% by weight.
6. A method according to claim 1, wherein the mass ratio of polymer to carbon nanotubes ranges from 0.05 to 20.
7. A method according to claim 1, wherein the polymer is selected from gum arabic, carrageenan, pectin, polygalacturonic acid, alginic acid, chitosan, combinations thereof and derivatives thereof.
8. A method according to claim 7, wherein the polymer is gum arabic.
9. A stable suspension of carbon nanotubes, prepared according to claim 1.
10. A powder of carbon nanotubes, comprising a polymer in admixture therewith.

11. The powder of claim 10, wherein the polymer is adsorbed on the nanotubes.
12. Use of the carbon nanotubes of claim 9 for depositing carbon nanotubes onto a solid support in a required pattern.
13. Use of the carbon nanotubes of claim 9 as a template for the growth of crystals of silica, or a hybrid material of silica with carbon nanotubes.
14. Use of the carbon nanotubes of claim 9 as a reinforcing agent for polymeric matrices.
15. Use of the carbon nanotubes according to claim 14, wherein the polymeric matrix is elastomer.
16. Use of the carbon nanotubes of claim 9 as an electric conductive connector between two electronic devices.
17. Use according to claim 16, wherein at least one of the devices is a nanoelectronic device.
18. Use of the carbon nanotubes of claim 9 in a technique that comprises the formation of a thin layer.
19. Use according to claim 18, wherein the technique is printing.
20. Use according to claim 18, wherein the technique is coating.